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Fort Hays State University Faculty Senate Minutes, October 24, 1995

FHSU Faculty Senate

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Minutes of FHSU Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting
24 October 1995

A. President Steve Shapiro called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on 24 October 1995 in the Prairie Room of the Memorial Union.

B. Senators present were Jean Gleichsner, Martha Holmes, Martin Shapiro, Rich Huguen, Steve Sedbrook, Joseph Aistrup and Mike Miller.

C. Minutes from the 19 September 1995 meeting were approved with no corrections.

D. Announcements:

-The Executive Committee is to meet on 25 October 1995 with Board of Regents Director John Welsh at 8:30am. Potential agenda topics are qualified admissions, re-engineering the Regent's system, the future of graduate studies, and suggestions for ways to evaluate teaching.

-The Board of Regents meeting was a success. Steve wants to set aside time at the next meeting to review the various topics that were discussed at each table with each Regent.

-There has been a motion from the Sociology department that Faculty Senate go on record in support of the Empowerment Report. Rich noted that since this was coming from a department, that someone from Sociology must be at Faculty Senate to make this motion. It was decided that Steve will contact Alice Humphries to make sure that she understands the procedures necessary to make the motion.

-Steve invited Dr. Fernandez and Dr. Ranker to the November meeting to discuss CTELT. Dr. Fernandez said they will attend, but he has another meeting about the same time. Steve suggested that they come at 4:00 p.m.

-Steve received a note from Bob Nickolson (chair of Biological Sciences) that because of the new department alignments, Allied Health will gain another senator and Biological Sciences will need to elect a new senator in addition to Senator Gary Hulette.

E. Standing Committees

1. Academic Affairs -- Martha

-Academic Affairs will be examining the question of grade inflation. The general feeling AA is that there is not a problem with grade inflation. However, because this is a significant topic in the Student Senate, Steve asked AA to examine this question.

-Academic Affairs voiced a concern about the proposed schedule

change. No action will be taken; Martha would like to compile more information from the Provost before making a recommendation.

-Academic Affairs will be submitting two courses from Economics and Finance to be approved by Faculty Senate. Econ 467 and Econ 477 are internship classes.

-There is already an Academic Dishonesty Policy for the faculty, but it does not apply to the students. Academic Affairs is working on a Student Academic Dishonesty Policy.

-After some discussion with students from SGA, the committee passed the following motion: "Because the faculty concur with the student body's concerns with the issue of grade inflation and how it affects the Honors Graduation Policy, the Faculty Senate's Academic Affairs Committee suggests that the student government organization research and evaluate other Regents schools policies on this issue and take these findings and recommendations to the Provost."

2. University Affairs- Marty

-University Affairs proposed that the following standards be followed for merit raises for first year faculty: In the interest of fairness with regard to the awarding of merit increases to first year faculty, all departments are encouraged to project the evaluation of all such faculty for a portion of the merit year (the portion actually spent in service to the university), over the entire merit year.

Discussion of this motion centered on its clarity and the problems that new faculty have in receiving a fair raise. After much discussion, it was decided to leave the motion unchanged.

-University Affairs will also introduce the following motion concerning modifications to the University Faculty Handbook: Additions, subtractions, and other modifications to the University Faculty handbook that directly affect members of the faculty in their professional work should be either initiated or approved by the Faculty Senate.

There was some discussion about the references to the chapters in the Faculty Handbook that are effected by this motion. Steve noted that if Rich could develop some new wording that is more precise, he should introduce it as a friendly amendment at the Faculty Senate meeting.

-University Affairs is also studying the promotion process from Instructor to Assistant for tenure track and non-tenure track

appointments. After some discussion, Marty decided to not put this topic on the agenda.

3. Student Affairs - Steven Sedbrook

-Student Affairs will make a recommendation concerning classes held on Oktoberfest and present this motion at the next Faculty Senate meeting. Student Affairs will be meeting on 25 October 1995. Steve Shapiro read the reaction of Student Senate to the Provost's proposal to hold classes on Oktoberfest. Student Senate supports continuing the present policy of not having classes on Oktoberfest because many students attend Oktoberfest to man student organizational booths, which take in a significant amount of money.

4. By-laws and Standing Rules - Rich had no report.

5. External Affairs and Faculty Salary had no report.

F. Old Business

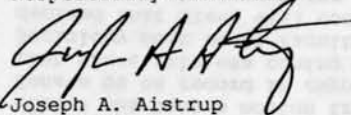
-No old business

E. New Business

-No new business

H. Adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph A. Aistrup
Secretary